

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Dee Brown, on March 15, 2017 at 2:30 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Dee Brown, Chair (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Sue Malek (D)  
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)  
Sen. Frank Smith (D)  
Sen. Nels Swandal (R)  
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)  
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Barbara Pietuch, Committee Secretary  
Rachel Weiss, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 448, 3/8/2017; HB 501, 3/8/2017; HB 533, 3/8/2017; HB 322, 3/8/2017

Executive Action: HB 447 - Be Concurred In  
HB 388 - Be Concurred In  
HB 371 - Vote Tied  
HB 288 - Be Concurred In  
HB 287 - Be Tabled

00:00:03 Chair Brown

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 447**

00:00:55 **Motion:** Sen. Kary moved that **HB 447 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

00:01:04 Chair Brown

00:01:13 Sen. Osmundson entered the meeting.

00:01:19 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Swandal will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 388**

00:01:53 **Motion:** Sen. Kary moved that **HB 388 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

00:02:00 Chair Brown

00:02:21 Sen. Whitford

00:02:39 Rachel Weiss, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:03:22 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Salomon will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 371**

00:04:07 **Motion:** Sen. Kary moved that **HB 371 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

00:04:11 Chair Brown

00:04:46 Sen. Kary

00:05:03 Sen. Swandal

00:05:10 Sen. Kary

00:05:31 Chair Brown

00:05:41 Rachel Weiss, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:06:07 Chair Brown

00:06:39 Ms. Weiss, LSD

00:07:13 Chair Brown

00:07:21 Ms. Weiss

00:07:33 Sen. Osmundson

00:08:05 Ms. Weiss

00:08:34 Sen. Osmundson

00:08:54 Sen. Swandal

00:09:23 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Malek, Sen. F. Smith, Sen. Swandal and Sen. Whitford voting aye.

**Discussion:**

00:10:00 Sen. Malek  
00:11:21 Chair Brown

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 288**

00:11:42 **Motion:** Sen. Kary moved that **HB 288 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

00:11:51 Chair Brown  
00:11:56 Sen. Vance  
00:12:11 Sen. Swandal

00:12:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Vance will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 287**

00:12:51 **Motion:** Sen. Kary moved that **HB 287 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

00:12:57 Chair Brown  
00:13:15 Sen. Osmundson  
00:13:34 Rachel Weiss, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
00:14:13 Sen. Osmundson  
00:14:27 Ms. Weiss, LSD  
00:14:54 Sen. Swandal  
00:15:15 Sen. Whitford  
00:16:19 Sen. Smith  
00:16:34 Chair Brown  
00:16:49 Sen. Malek  
00:17:24 Ms. Weiss  
00:17:59 Chair Brown  
00:18:02 Sen. Malek  
00:18:45 Chair Brown

00:19:01 **Vote:** Motion failed 3-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Malek, Sen. F. Smith and Sen. Whitford voting aye.

00:19:45 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Kary moved that **HB 287 BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED.** Motion carried 5-3 by voice vote with Sen. Malek, Sen. F. Smith and Sen. Whitford voting no.

00:20:56 Recess  
00:25:55 Reconvene

**HEARING ON HB 533**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:26:02 Rep. Virginia Court (D), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 533, Revise laws related to qualifications for and edu. of board of invest. members.

[EXHIBIT\(sts54a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:36:56 Rep. Randy Brodehl, HD 9, Legislative Audit Committee

00:38:59 Chair Brown

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:39:25 Mark Noennig, self

[EXHIBIT\(sts54a02\)](#)

00:48:27 Jon Satre, self

00:54:43 Mr. Noennig, self

00:55:30 Diane Fladmo, director of Research & Bargaining, retired program coordinator, Montana Education Association - Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

[EXHIBIT\(sts54a03\)](#)

01:00:08 Tom Schneider, lobbyist, Montana Public Employee Association

01:04:25 Joe Cullen, self

**Informational Testimony:**

01:12:04 John Harrington, performance auditor, Legislative Audit Division (LAD)

[EXHIBIT\(sts54a04\)](#)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:12:31 Sen. Kary  
01:13:08 Rep. Court  
01:13:23 Sen. Whitford  
01:13:57 Rep. Court  
01:14:09 Sen. Whitford  
01:14:22 Rep. Court  
01:14:38 Chair Brown  
01:14:46 Mr. Harrington, LAD  
01:15:09 Chair Brown  
01:15:25 Mr. Noennig  
01:16:07 Sen. Malek  
01:16:43 Mr. Harrington  
01:17:38 Sen. Malek  
01:18:42 Mr. Harrington  
01:20:23 Sen. Malek

01:21:15 Rep. Court  
 01:22:27 Sen. Malek  
 01:23:40 Rep. Court  
 01:24:41 Chair Brown  
 01:25:29 Rep. Court  
 01:26:06 Chair Brown  
 01:26:44 Mr. Cullen, self  
 01:28:36 Chair Brown  
 01:29:07 Mr. Cullen  
 01:32:15 Chair Brown  
 01:32:41 Mr. Cullen  
 01:33:04 Sen. Whitford  
 01:33:08 Chair Brown  
 01:33:12 Mr. Cullen  
 01:34:37 Chair Brown  
 01:35:23 Mr. Noennig  
 01:36:04 Chair Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:36:12 Rep. Court

**HEARING ON HB 501**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:41:35 Rep. Austin Knudsen (R), HD 34, opened the hearing on HB 501, Generally revising laws related to boycotts of Israel.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:44:07 Mark Crammer, self  
 01:45:54 Jeff Laszloffy, self  
 01:50:55 Garrett Bacon, self  
 01:52:00 Webb Brown, president, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCOC)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:53:04 Laurie Franklin, self

**EXHIBIT**(sts54a05)

01:58:13 Chair Brown  
 01:58:28 David Ewer, executive director, Board of Investments (BOI)  
 02:02:48 Joe Cullen, self  
 02:07:28 David Andersen, president, Montana Association of Christians

02:08:52 Chair Brown turned the Chair over to Vice Chair Kary.

02:09:53 SK Rossi, director of Advocacy and Public Policy, ACLU of Montana  
 02:13:16 Felomina Genilla Garvin, self

02:14:25 Dick Pritchard, self  
02:15:55 Frank Kromkowski, self

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:23:50 Sen. Osmundson  
02:24:22 Rep. Knudsen  
02:25:00 Sen. Osmundson  
02:25:14 Rep. Knudsen  
02:25:38 Mr. Ewer, BOI  
02:26:17 Sen. Osmundson  
02:26:42 Mr. Ewer  
02:26:59 Sen. Malek  
02:28:19 Mr. Brown, MCOC  
02:28:58 Sen. Malek  
02:29:04 Mr. Brown  
02:29:35 Sen. Malek  
02:29:56 Mr. Brown  
02:30:54 Sen. Malek  
02:31:10 Mr. Brown  
02:31:33 Sen. Malek  
02:32:31 Mr. Kromkowski, self  
02:35:07 Sen. Malek  
02:35:40 Rep. Knudsen  
02:36:31 Sen. Malek  
02:36:43 Rep. Knudsen  
02:37:16 Sen. Whitford  
02:38:39 Mr. Ewer  
02:41:00 Sen. Whitford  
02:42:07 Mr. Ewer  
02:43:42 Sen. Whitford  
02:45:00 Rep. Knudsen  
02:45:38 Sen. Whitford  
02:45:59 Rep. Knudsen  
02:46:55 Chair Kary

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:47:05 Rep. Knudsen

**HEARING ON HB 448**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:52:03 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 448, Allow counties to ask voters to approve nonpartisan or partisan elections.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:53:55 Susan Good Geise, commissioner, Lewis and Clark County (LCC)

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts54a06)

03:03:27 Laura Obert, commissioner, Broadwater County (BC)

03:08:01 Eric Bryson, assistant director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

03:09:57 Rep. Mike Cuffe, HD 2, self

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts54a07)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:17:09 Sen. Malek  
 03:18:11 Rep. Cuffe  
 03:19:41 Sen. Malek  
 03:19:57 Rep. Cuffe  
 03:20:13 Sen. Malek  
 03:20:39 Rep. Cuffe  
 03:21:38 Sen. Whitford  
 03:22:11 Mr. Bryson, MACo  
 03:22:21 Sen. Whitford  
 03:22:43 Sen. Swandal  
 03:23:08 Mr. Bryson  
 03:24:51 Sen. Whitford  
 03:25:00 Ms. Good Geise, LCC  
 03:28:00 Sen. Whitford  
 03:29:02 Ms. Obert, BC  
 03:29:19 Sen. Smith  
 03:30:05 Rep. Cuffe  
 03:31:49 Chair Kary  
 03:32:16 Mr. Bryson  
 03:32:48 Chair Kary  
 03:33:02 Ms. Good Geise  
 03:34:01 Chair Kary  
 03:34:07 Ms. Good Geise  
 03:34:30 Chair Kary  
 03:34:57 Rep. Fitzgerald  
 03:35:07 Chair Kary  
 03:35:21 Rep. Fitzgerald  
 03:36:19 Chair Kary  
 03:36:33 Rep. Fitzgerald  
 03:38:02 Sen. Smith  
 03:38:19 Mr. Bryson, MACo  
 03:38:46 Sen. Smith  
 03:38:57 Mr. Bryson

03:39:36 Sen. Whitford  
03:41:10 Rep. Fitzgerald  
03:41:57 Sen. Whitford

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:42:11 Rep. Fitzgerald

**HEARING ON SB 322**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:43:18 Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 322, Revise vehicle registration fee laws related to veterans.

03:49:00 Chair Kary  
03:51:06 Sen. Connell

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

03:52:45 Lisa Wanke, systems analyst, Records and Licensing, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:53:10 Sen. Swandal  
03:53:26 Ms. Wanke, DOJ  
03:54:05 Sen. Smith  
03:54:43 Chair Kary  
03:55:12 Sen. Smith  
03:55:20 Ms. Wanke  
03:55:43 Sen. Swandal  
03:56:05 Chair Kary

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:56:16 Sen. Connell  
03:58:09 Chair Kary



**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 6:32 PM

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Barbara Pietuch, Secretary

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**Additional Documents**

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([sts54aad.pdf](#))**